

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

sub
DY
b1
--13. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that
the method is used in a progress indicator.--

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

Claims 1-13 are pending in this application. By the present Amendment, Claim 13 is amended as requested by the Examiner.

At Paragraph 1 of the Office Action, the drawings were objected to because "they fail to show (The objects A, B, C are marked with an index, e.g., Aij. The first index i indicates the broadcast cycle, the second one j is a counter for repetitive transmissions of the object in the current cycle.)"

In reply, the objection to the drawings is not understood. Applicants submit that the drawings are in compliance with 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Examiner is referred to Fig. 1 of the drawings which shows an example of a simple broadcast cycle that consists of three data objects A, B and C, as explained in the specification at page 5, lines 4-14. In the example, during broadcast cycle "n", the time interval of the first transmission of the object "A" is denoted by A_{n1} which means that the object A is transmitted for the first time in the n^{th} cycle. The time interval of the second transmission of the object A during the n^{th} cycle is denoted by A_{n2} , where the subscript "2" denotes the second transmission. Similar markings are set forth for the objects

B and C. Accordingly, the marking of the objects A, B and C with examples of indexes "i" and "j" are clearly shown in the drawings. Withdrawal of the drawing objections is, therefore, respectfully solicited.

Claims 1-13 were each rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,301,243 to Copper et al. in view of one or more other references. This rejection is respectfully traversed. It is submitted that the Copper et al. patent cannot be used as prior art to reject the claims of the present application. The Copper et al. patent was filed in the United States on December 2, 1998. The present application is entitled to a foreign priority date of July 16, 1998, which is prior to the U.S. filing date of Copper et al. A certified copy, in the English language, of the priority application for the present application, i.e., EPO patent application No. 98113299.6, was submitted with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on April 16, 1999, thereby perfecting the priority claim for this application.

Accordingly, in light of the earlier effective filing date of the present application, the Copper et al. patent reference is disqualified as prior art to the present application. Withdrawal of the §103 rejection based on Copper et al. is, therefore, respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, and the allowance of this application with Claims 1-13 are respectfully requested.

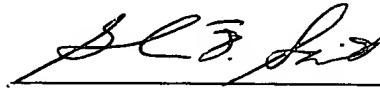
In regard to the claim(s) amended herein, it is submitted that these claim(s), as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the examiner, and that these claim(s) were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112. Changes to these claim(s), as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number written below.

Respectfully submitted,
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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Claims:

Claim 13 has been amended as follows:

--13. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that
[it] the method is used in a progress indicator.--